

MELGES²⁴

2019 US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 22-26

NOTICE OF RACE



The Organizing Authority (OA) is The Fairhope Yacht Club (Fairhope, Alabama), in cooperation with The US Melges 24 Class Association.

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the NOR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020* (RRS) and the rules of the International Melges 24 Class Association (IM24CA).
- 1.2. The following rules will be changed in accordance with RRS 86.1(b):
 - 1.2.1. All competitors shall wear personal flotation devices while racing, except for brief periods while changing or adjusting clothing. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. Code flag "Y" will not be displayed. This changes RRS 40.
 - 1.2.2. The Race Committee (RC) will use VHF radio to communicate to the fleet. Failure to make broadcasts or failure to hear the broadcast shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1. The Sailing Instructions (SI's) will provide more detail on the procedure.
- 1.3. The SI's may change additional racing rules.

2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1. Advertising will conform to World Sailing Regulation 20 and the Class Rules.
- 2.2. Boats may be required to display sponsors' advertising for the duration of the event chosen and supplied by the OA.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. The regatta is open to all boats of the Melges 24 class that meet the obligations of the Class Rules and, when relevant, their Member National Authority.
- 3.2. Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration at [YachtScoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=6114) (Direct Link: <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=6114>) no later than May 16, 2019. Entries may be accepted after this date only with approval by the OA on a case by case basis.
- 3.3. Only boats that have completed all registration requirements will be allowed to compete.
Note – completed entry includes payment of entry fee.
- 3.4. The OA will acknowledge completed entries upon receipt via email and post on the official event web site at [YachtScoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com).
- 3.5. As a condition of entry, all boats shall be moored in the FYC Harbor from May 24, 2019 through to the completion of the event.

4. CLASSIFICATION

- 4.1. The World Sailing Sailor Classification Code (Regulation 22) will apply to teams in the

Corinthian Trophy (see RRS 79).

- 4.2. For boats that qualify for the Corinthian division, shall submit a Corinthian Declaration Form that includes sailor classifications, World Sailing sailor ID numbers and date of expiration to USM24CA Admin no later than May 16, 2019 by email to communications@usmelges24.com. The Corinthian Declaration Form will be posted online at: www.usmelges24.com and YachtScoring.com.
- 4.3. Entries accepted after May 16, 2019 shall not be eligible for the Corinthian Trophy and will sail in the open division.
- 4.4. Full details for the Corinthian Trophy can be found in the IM24CA Championship rules.
- 4.5. Protests regarding World Sailing classification may be submitted starting May 20, 2019 and must be submitted by the close of registration. Such protests will be handled by the USM24CA office, whose decision is final.
- 4.6. Should a boat whose Corinthian entry has been checked and accepted need to change a crew member between the closing date of entries and the start of the regatta, the name of the new crew member with their valid World Sailing sailor ID and group number shall be submitted to the OA for approval by the IM24CA Championship Coordinator.

5. FEES

- 5.1. The Entry Fee will be:
 - 5.1.1. **\$450.00** up to April 1, 2019.
 - 5.1.2. **\$550.00** from April 1, 2019 to April 30, 2019.
 - 5.1.3. **\$600.00** from May 1, 2019 onwards.
- 5.2. Entry Fee includes launching at commencement and recovery at conclusion of the Regatta at designated times, berthing at the regatta harbour for the dates of the event, trailer storage, tickets to the events (Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony and Dinner) for all competing crew.

6. SCHEDULE

6.1.

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME(s)
Wednesday	5/22	Check-In/Weigh-In	1600-1900
Thursday	5/23	Practice Race	1200
		Check-In/Weigh-In	1600-1900
Friday	5/24	Late Check-In/Weigh-In	0845-0945
		Competitors' Meeting	1000
		First Warning Signal	1100
Saturday	5/25	First Warning Signal	1100
Sunday	5/26	First Warning Signal	1100
		No Warning Signal after this time, except as a result of a General Recall	1500

- 6.2. The RC will plan to run up to 3 races each day, however, 4 races per day may be run to anticipate future weather disruptions or to make up for races not sailed during previous days. At no time will the total number of races be more than 1 race more than the schedule of 3 races per day.
- 6.3. The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

7. MEASUREMENT

- 7.1. Each boat shall produce a valid measurement certificate before the close of registration, May 24, 2019.
- 7.2. The Technical Committee may weigh, measure or inspect any boat and or her equipment and sails before, during, or after the races.
- 7.3. Registration of sails and limitation stamping will take place during periods stated in NoR 6.1 above. **THERE WILL BE NO FACILITIES FOR INITIAL MEASUREMENT.** Sails shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer before arrival at the Regatta.
- 7.4. A boat chartered or loaned for this event may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of the Class Rules.
- 7.5. During the regatta checks on conformity with Class Rules, including measurement requirements may be performed at any time.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1. The SI's will be available at registration and will be posted on the event web site no later than May 15, 2019.

9. VENUE

- 9.1. The racing area will be on Mobile Bay, in the vicinity of the Fairhope Yacht Club.

10. THE COURSES

- 10.1. The courses to be sailed will be windward-leeward. Offset marks and leeward gates will be used.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1. The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to read: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 or Class Rule C.11 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty."
- 11.2. Unless the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2.
- 11.3. If a member of the Jury witnesses a breach of RRS Part 2, RRS 31 and/or Class Rule C.11, they may indicate their observation by making a long sound (whistle) and a red flag. The boat shall then exonerate itself by complying with NOR 12.1. If no penalty is taken the Jury may protest.
- 11.4. Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42) will apply. RRS P2.3 will not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one. The penalty under RRS P2.1 is changed to be a one-turn penalty. This changes RRS Appendix P.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. 3 races are to be completed to constitute the Championship.
- 12.2. When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 12.3. When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst discardable score.

13. SUPPORT BOATS

- 13.1. Coach and support boats shall register by completing online registration at YachtScoring.com no later than May 20, 2019. Only boats that have registered and carry identification provided by the OA will be allowed in the racing area [DP].
- 13.2. The IM24CA Coach and Support Boat regulations will apply and is attached to this NOR as Attachment A.
- 13.3. Each person on board a coach or support boat shall be deemed a *support person as per* RRS Definitions.

14. LAUNCHING AND BERTHING

- 14.1. Cranage times will be detailed on the event website.
- 14.2. All boats shall be afloat by 1000 hours on May 24, 2019.
- 14.3. Except when sailing, all boats shall be kept in their assigned docks in the FYC harbour. Fenders and mooring lines will be required [DP].

15. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 15.1. Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta between 1000 hours, May 24, 2019 and the end of the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the RC [DP].

16. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 16.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones and other mobile devices [DP].
- 16.2. Race information will be given on a designated VHF Channel, which will be described in the SI's.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1. The top finishing team will be awarded the Buddy Melges Perpetual Trophy.
- 17.2. Prizes will be given to the top 3 teams overall and to the top 3 Corinthian teams.
- 17.3. The USMCA may award additional prizes.

18. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 18.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The OA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. Liability waivers shall be signed by all competitors during registration.
- 18.2. Liability Waiver Form - As a condition of entry, each owner, skipper and individual participating crewmember shall sign a liability waiver/media release. The fully executed Liability Waiver Form shall be submitted at registration prior to racing. The Liability Waiver Form will be posted on the regatta website and will be available at registration. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

19. INSURANCE

- 19.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum

cover of \$500,000 (USD) per event or the equivalent.

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

20.1. For further information, please consult the event web site or any of the key contacts listed below.

21. KEY CONTACTS

REGATTA CHAIR

Name: Scott Hartwell

E-mail: hartwells251@yahoo.com

USM24CA GULF COAST DISTRICT CHAIR

Name: Zane Yoder

Email: zaneyoder2@gmail.com

PRINCIPAL RACE OFFICER (PRO)

Name: Hal Smith

Email: hal_smith@mindspring.com

CHIEF JUDGE

Name: Tom Rinda

Email: mercofl@aol.com

ATTACHMENT A - COACH, SUPPORT, PRESS & SPECTATOR BOATS

COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

1. Coach and support boats shall register with the race office during registration. They shall declare which boat or boats they are attached to.
2. Coach and support boats shall display a flag, or other identification symbol, as may be required by the race committee.
3. No coach boat or support boat shall pass information in any way to a boat that is racing. See Rule 41. Infringements of this will be taken very seriously.
4. All Melges 24 boats shall proceed to the racing area under their own power.
5. There shall be no transfer of any goods or equipment until after the finish of the last race of the day between Melges 24s and their coach or support boats.
6. Coach and support boats shall keep 100 meters from the course diamond (including laylines) from the time the racers leave the dock until completion of the final race.
7. Any coach or support boat that interferes with another competitor or the racing in any way, including creating excess wash, or hinders an official boat carrying out its duties shall have the competitor(s) to which they are attached, liable to a penalty at the discretion of the jury.
8. Any competitor may protest under this attachment.
9. Any penalty given by the jury is at their discretion, but shall be applied to the overall score and therefore not discarded.
10. Coach and support boats shall not communicate with competitors (by any means) from the time the racers leave the dock until completion of the final race.

PRESS AND SPECTATOR BOATS

1. All Press and official spectator boats shall be registered by the race organizing authority during registration.
2. Press and spectator boats shall display any flag, or other identification symbol as may be required by the race committee.
3. The race organizers may appoint one or more photo boats, which will be allowed within the race course. The position of these boats shall not be grounds for redress.
4. Press and spectator boats shall not interfere with the racing in any way.